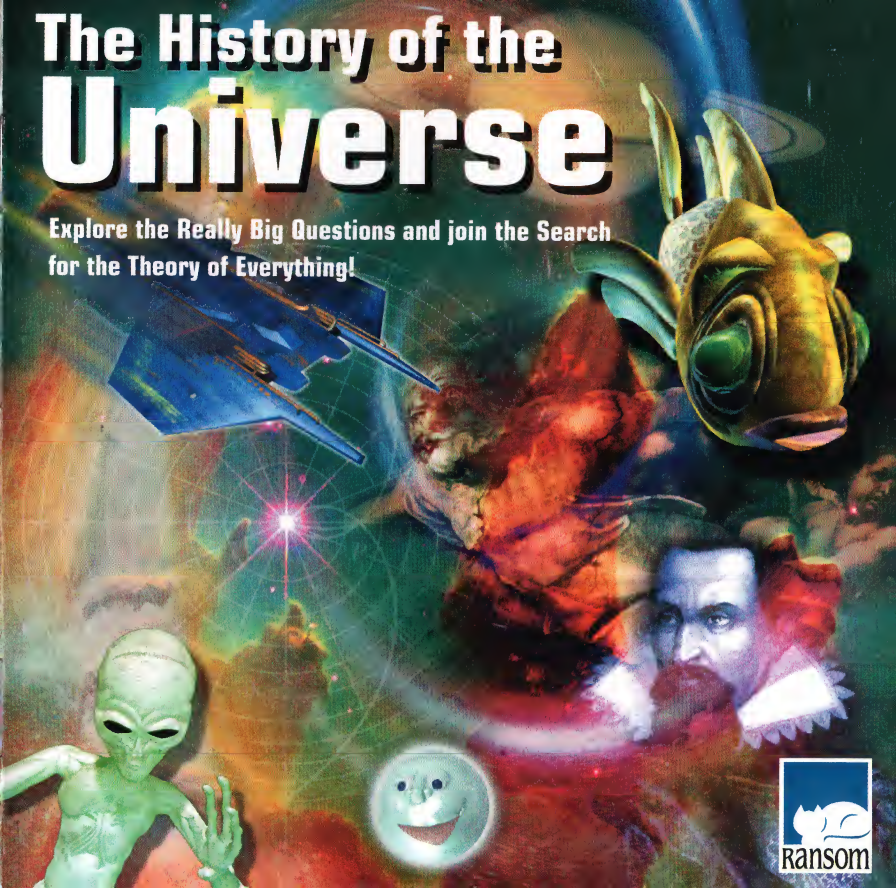


The History of the Universe

Explore the Really Big Questions and join the Search for the Theory of Everything!



The History of the Universe

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Hardware and software requirements

The minimum recommended requirements to run The History of the Universe are: an IBM-compatible PC with a 486 processor, 8MB of RAM, double-speed CD-ROM drive, SVGA monitor, mouse, Windows-compatible sound card and speakers.

The History of the Universe requires Microsoft Windows version 3.1 or higher. If your computer is running Windows 95 The History of the Universe will automatically take advantage of some of the additional features offered by Windows 95.

Contact us or visit Ransom's Web site <http://www.ransom.co.uk> for details of related publications.

The History of the Universe was conceived, written and produced by Stephen Rickard.

Getting Started

To start The History of the Universe:

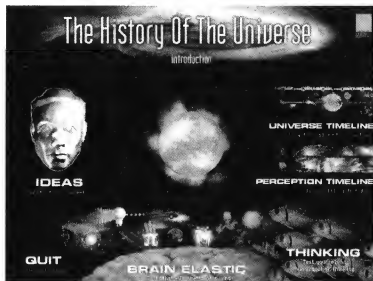
1. Ensure that the CD-ROM disk is in your CD-ROM drive.
2. **Windows 3.1 users:** in Program Manager select the History of the Universe Program Group and click on the History of the Universe icon.
Windows 95 users: click on **Start** and select **Programs**. Select the History of the Universe folder and click on the History of the Universe icon.
3. The History of the Universe will then start.

This is where you reach the action:

There's lots to do here. Start with the **Introduction** - it's what it's there for! Then there's the **Ideas** section, **Brain Elastic**, two **timelines** and a **Thinking** section. And don't forget the **PDA** and **Glossary**!

Closing down The History of the Universe

To close down **The History of the Universe** click on **Quit** on the main menu or move your mouse to the top of the screen to reveal the menu bar. Click on **File** and then **Quit**. The History of the Universe will close.

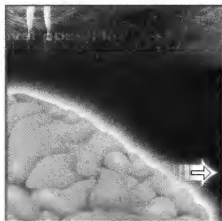


Ideas and Brain Elastic

Visit the **Ideas** section to cover some of the important concepts and ideas relating to the History of the Universe. The **Ideas** section has a menu of different subjects. Click on one to get going! To get back to the Ideas menu, click on the light bulb in the top right corner.



The **Brain Elastic** section also has a menu of different subjects, but not all appear on the screen at once. You can find the rest of the questions by clicking on the arrows to the left and right to scroll the brain.



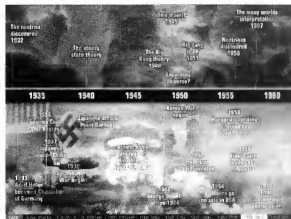
When you're looking at a question, to get back to the Brain Elastic menu click on the brain in the top right corner (next to the PDA icon).



The Timelines

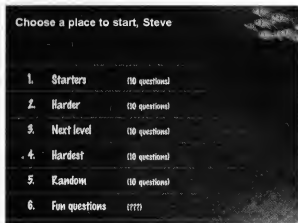
There are two timelines, and both work in the same way. Above the dateline are key "Universe" events: click on each of these to obtain more information. Below the dateline are some general events, showing what else was happening in the world. (You can't click on these).

To move forward or backwards along the timeline, click to the left or right of the screen, or click on the dates at the bottom of the screen. **Back** takes you back to the main menu.



The Thinking Section

The **Thinking** section comes in two parts. One part contains some worksheets and starting points for further thought; these can be printed out and copied if required. To access these worksheets click on the **Worksheets** icon in the History of the Universe Program Group, or folder.



The other part of the Thinking section can be accessed from the History of the Universe main menu. Read the on-screen **Helpful Notes** to find out more information about using this part of the Thinking section.


The PDA

Your **Personal Digital Assistant**, or PDA, is where you can find more information. Each part of the Ideas and Brain Elastic sections contains more information in the PDA about the subjects discussed.

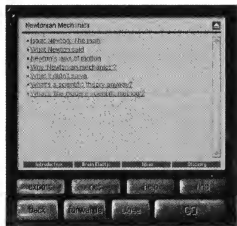


To open the PDA click on the PDA icon.

The PDA contains text and images which explain more about the subjects in The History of the Universe. Information is contained in the PDA under the following headings: Introduction, **Ideas**, **Brain Elastic** and the **Glossary**. To move from one section to another click on the dark green buttons at the bottom of the PDA screen.

You can also use the "up" arrow  to move up the hierarchy of information.

Information contained in the PDA is fully hypertext linked, to other sections, to



images and to the glossary. Click on a blue link to make a hypertext jump; use the back button to move back to your previous position. Clicking on a red link will display an image in the PDA.

If you move to another section in the PDA, for example "Quasars", clicking on **Go** will automatically close the PDA and take you to "Quasars" in the Ideas section.

Searching the PDA

You can also search the PDA for any text you specify: click on the find button and type in the text you are searching for. A list of search "hits" will be presented.

Exporting information from the PDA

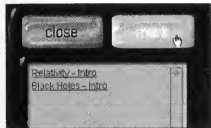
Clicking on export allows you to save your current selection in the PDA (whether it is text or images) to your hard disc. But remember all material in the PDA is copyright, so don't break the rules!

Don't forget the Universe Weblink!

If you have an Internet connection you can also use the PDA to connect directly to Ransom's History of the Universe Web site, which contains updates and additional information. To connect to this Web site, first make sure that you are connected to the Internet via your Internet Service provider. Then click on the net button on the PDA, and away you go!

Using bookmarks

You can create "bookmarks", or markers, in The History of the Universe, which allow you to return to a particular place. To create a bookmark press the spacebar on the keyboard. The bookmark assistant will appear. Click on mark to create your marker, then click on **close**.



To go to a bookmark, press the spacebar to open the bookmark assistant. Then click on the bookmark you wish to go to. You will automatically be taken to that location.

Note: your bookmarks will not be saved for a future session unless you choose first to save your position.

Saving your position

If you want to take a break whilst using the History of the Universe, you can save your current position and come back to the same place later.

To save your current position, move your mouse to the top of the screen to reveal the menu bar. Click on **File** and then **Save**. Type in a name for your position and click OK. Your current location in The History of the Universe, together with any bookmarks you have created and the latest search results (if any) in the PDA will all be saved.

To restore your position, start The History of the Universe, click on **File** and then **Open**. Select the position you previously saved and click **OK**. Your position will be restored.

The History of the Universe

Installing The History of the Universe

To install The History of the Universe:

1. Insert The History of the Universe CD-ROM into your CD-ROM player.

Windows 3.1 users:

2. From the File menu in Program Manager select **Run**. Type x:\setup31.exe where x is the letter of your CD-ROM drive. Press **Enter** or click **OK**.

Windows 95 users:

2. Click on **Start** and select **Run**. Type x:\setup95.exe where x is the letter of your CD-ROM drive. Press **Enter** or click **OK**.
3. Then follow the instructions on the screen.

Getting help

If you have a technical query regarding The History of the Universe contact Ransom Publishing with details of the exact nature of your problem.

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